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HOSPITAL AND TRAINING-SCHOOL ITEMS



LACONIA, New Hampshire, is to have a new up-to-date hospital, which it is claimed will be the best in that State. Plans have been submitted, and the work of construction will commence early in the spring.

On the evening of January 31 the Samaritan Hospital, Troy, New York, graduated its sixth class of nurses from the training-school. The exercises were held in the assembly-room of Thurman Home. The room was prettily decorated with palms and flowers, the class colors, green and yellow, predominating. Dr. Bryant, of New York, gave the address to the graduating class, which was full of helpful suggestions. Following the exercises a reception was given the class.

THE public graduating exercises of the class of 1907 of the S. R. Smith Infirmary Training-School for Nurses, Staten Island, which were to have been held on Thursday, January 31, at the Hospital, were omitted because of the great calamity which has befallen the Hospital in the death of Dr. Charles Wilmot Townsend, a member of the surgical staff, who was fatally shot on the 26th. The class, consisting of seventeen members, received their diplomas and medals in the presence of a small number of officials, the training-school committee and undergraduates.

THE Laconia (New Hampshire) Hospital graduated three nurses on January 18. The exercises were held in Armory Hall, and the program of address and music was most interesting. The address to the graduating class was by Dr. Ellen Wallace, of Manchester, giving a brief history of the growth of training-schools and glimpses of the work of those who in the early days of nursing sacrificed position, wealth and the comforts of home for the sake of suffering humanity. The young women who received diplomas were Alma A. Wheeler, of Hebron; Alida M. Boulanger and Mary A. Pike, of Laconia.

WHEELING, W. VA.—On January 22 the new wing of the Wheeling Hospital conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Wheeling, W. Va., was opened to the public.

The hospital was tastefully decorated for the occasion with plants and flowers, and in the evening Meister's Orchestra furnished a fine musical program. From 3 o'clock until 10 p. m. the hospital was thronged with visitors, who were received by the ladies of the committee in charge.

The new wing contains about sixty-five rooms, including three modern and up-to-date operating-rooms, sterilizing-rooms, etherizing-rooms, supply-rooms, diet kitchens on each floor, bath-rooms, and about forty-five private rooms.

These rooms, handsomely furnished, were donated to the hospital by friends. One of the operating-rooms, anesthetizing and sterilizing-rooms were furnished and donated by the Wheeling Branch, Knights of Columbus.

The hospital has been in need of this addition for some time past, not being able to accommodate all who desired admission.

The remainder of the hospital is being remodelled with all modern improvements, and when completed it will accommodate about one hundred and fifty patients.

Besides the Sisters, at present there are sixteen nurses in the hospital, which



Nurses' Home, Saginaw General Hospital.

force will be increased shortly. The training includes a course of three years. Lectures are given to the nurses by the attending physicians.

THE Davis Nurses' Home, with its furnishings complete, is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Davis, of Saginaw, Michigan, and is designed as a home for the nurses, while in training, at the Saginaw General Hospital.

It is built of vitrified brick and stone, covers an area of 44x72 feet, and is three stories high, with cement floored basement. It is heated by steam and lighted by electricity.

The first floor consists of reception rooms, library, private sitting-room, class-room, diet kitchen, linen closet, bath-room and four bedrooms. The class-room is fitted out with all necessities for teaching purposes, and the diet kitchen is equipped with all the conveniences of a modern kitchen, making it possible to give the nurses a complete course in practical dietetics—which covers the preparation, cooking and serving of food.

The second and third floors are devoted entirely to bedrooms, bath-rooms and linen closets. The bedrooms are 12x14 feet and 14x14 feet in size, with ample closet room for each, and, in the entire building, sleeping accommodations are provided for 36 persons.

The building is beautifully located, facing, as it does, Bliss Park on the front, the Michigan State Employment Institution for the Blind grounds on the left, and the Saginaw General Hospital on the right. Trolley cars run within two blocks of the building, and it is but six minutes' ride on same to both business centres of the city.

THE dedication exercises of the nurses' residence of the Hospital for Sick Children of Toronto, Ontario, took place on the evening of February 5, in the presence of a large company of distinguished guests, among whom were seven lady superintendents of New York city hospitals, namely: Miss Rykert, of the Post Graduate; Miss Lina Rogers, of the Board of Health; Miss Samuel, of the Roosevelt; Miss Wilson, of St. Luke's; Miss Annie Smith, of the Babies'; Miss Mary Hutchison, of the Sloane Maternity, all of whom are Canadians by birth, and Miss Annie Goodrich, of the City of New York Allied Hospitals.

The ceremony of transfer, which took place in the large general reception-room, where Miss Louise C. Brent, the lady superintendent; Mr. J. Ross Robertson, the donor, and Hon. G. A. Cox and Mr. John Flett received the guests, was exceedingly simple. Mr. J. Ross Robertson spoke briefly, and then handed the document to Mr. Douglas Davidson, the secretary-treasurer of the Hospital for Sick Children, who affixed the seal and read the deed of gift.

After a few remarks from Prof. Goldwin Smith, presentations were made on behalf of the nurses of an address to Mr. Robertson by Miss Nichols, a basket of flowers to Mrs. Robertson by Miss Ross, and a bouquet of pink roses to Miss Brent by Miss McClure. A bunch of Richmond roses was also given Mr. Robertson by the alumnae, the presentation being made by Miss Josephine Hamilton, the first nurse to graduate from the Hospital for Sick Children.

The building was then carefully inspected. A description of it has been given in another number of this journal.

In his presentation remarks Mr. Robertson paid a very beautiful tribute to nurses, in which he said:

Let me say that if ever there was a long-felt want it has been a residence of this kind. I have heard it suggested that the housing of our nurses has been over-

done, that their surroundings in their new residence are not in keeping with the simple life, which everybody talks about, and nobody enjoys. The nurses in their long days and longer nights of duty, in their hours of study and attendance at bedsides, follow the simple life—the simple life of hard work and duty that leads along the path of help and mercy. The demands upon these young women in their work are inflexible, and like the laws of the Medes and Persians are not to be changed.

We can do nothing to shorten the daily round or lighten the task of these young women. They come to us from good homes, and give three years of their young lives without recompense or material reward to help this hospital in its ministry of mercy to the children of poverty and pain. I say that the hospital can do nothing to reduce the labors of these nurses, but this building represents an effort to do something to increase their comforts. The best that can be done is none too good for these nurses. There is no nobler type of womankind even in this land of noble women.

I know that the hospital will get its reward for what has been done under this roof to surround the students of our School of Nursing with healthful and sanitary conditions of life that will build up their strength and send them away from the hospital in health as good, or even better, than the health which was one of their qualifications when they entered our service.

Among the distinguished Canadian guests were his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Mortimer Clark, Prof. Goldwin Smith, Trustees Hon. George A. Cox, Charles Cockshutt and John Flett, and other friends of the hospital.

